

## Idi Amin to address Americans

NAIROBI, March 14 (R). — President Idi Amin plans to address British and American living in Uganda but his government guarantees their safety, Uganda Radio reported tonight. It said "only those British and Americans who made propaganda against Uganda would be asked to leave." The radio said President Amin "will make arrangements to address them in the presence of religious leaders." But it gave no hint when the meeting would take place. The broadcast also quoted a government spokesman as saying serious consideration was being given to the withdrawal of a number of Ugandans training to be pilots in Scotland. Kampala radio reported, meanwhile, that Ugandans possessing "illegal or home-made firearms" have been given four days to surrender them to the authorities.

# JORDAN TIMES

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

جوردن تايمز يومية سياسية تصدر عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية «الراي»

Volume 2, Number 409

AMMAN, TUESDAY, MARCH 15, 1977 — RABIE AWAL 25, 1397

Price: 50 fils

## PNC opens hot debate in PLO executive report

JERO, March 14 (R). — Minutes and radicals in the Palestinian National Council (PNC) here today steered a clear line course which could mean the survival of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) in its present form. Hard-liners critical of PLO chairman Yasser Arafat's moderate policies tonight dominated the first policy debate at PNC meeting. The assembly discussed a report drawn up by the PNC Executive Committee which included a call on the United Nations to invite the Palestine Liberation Organisation to a reconvened Middle East conference. The report's read by Mr. Farouk Kaddumi, head of the PLO political department. The PLO has informed U.N. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim during his recent visit to the Middle East area that... PLO should be invited to (Geneva) conference as an independent party," the report said. It added that the PLO elected any discussion of the justice cause in the absence of the PLO. The report reflected the moderate line of Mr. Arafat but egged from both sides of political spectrum said that five speakers at tonight's debate tended towards the radical line of the Rejection Front commando organisations opposed to negotiated Middle East settlement. The delegates said tonight's speakers had come out against Palestinian participation at Geneva and had tabled questions the precise conditions for establishment of a Palestinian state. Mr. Arafat and other moderate in the PLO are advocating establishment of a Palestinian state on the Israeli-occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip rather than push for regaining all of former Palestine by military force. Two of tonight's speakers were members of the Rejection Front but the others were previously considered moderate or "independent" — not firmly tied to a political line or any of the Palestinian commando organisations. A PLO spokesman tonight read out cables received from municipal leaders in the West Bank and Gaza calling for Palestinian participation in a Geneva conference and the creation of "a Palestinian state capable of defending itself." Some conference sources said that tonight's opposition to Mr. Arafat's policy of moderation did not necessarily reflect the strength of the Rejection Front in the PNC, the supreme body of the PLO. The executive committee's report took issue with U.S. President Jimmy Carter's recent statement that a Middle East settlement would probably involve minor adjustments to Israel's pre-1967 borders and an Israeli defence capability beyond the permanent end and recognised borders. The report said that the statement underlined that there was no sign of change in American policy towards the Palestinians, the crux of the Middle East conflict. The council yesterday re-elected Mr. Khaled Fahoum, a "moderate", as speaker in favour of a candidate from the hard-line Rejection Front. Mr. Fahoum collected 172 votes and Mr. Bahjat Abu Ghariyeh of the Popular Struggle Front (PSF) received 69 votes. There were 21 abstentions. The PSF is one of the four commando groups of the Rejection Front.



SAVED FROM ENTOMBMENT — After 187 hours, 59-year-old teacher Elena Enache, was saved from under the ruins of a 10-floor building in Bucharest which collapsed upon her during the earthquake of March 4. Perfectly conscious when she was saved, she was holding a radio set which was probably her aid in giving her news and keeping her conscious. President Ceausescu has announced that the earthquake killed 1,387 people and injured more than 10,500. The biggest losses were suffered by Bucharest and the cities of Zimnicea, Ploiesti, and Craiova. Eighty per cent of Zimnicea's buildings were destroyed. A lot of factories suffered big losses and more than 200 interrupted their activities. The value of the losses exceeds \$1 billion. (AP wirephoto).

## Leftist advances, Chirac victory in municipal polls setback for Giscard

PARIS, March 14 (Agencies) — President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, searching for a formula to beat the leftwing opposition, has suffered a double blow to his prestige in municipal elections throughout France. First-round voting yesterday showed steadily rising popularity for the opposition alliance of Socialists and Communists, which made impressive gains in more than 30 provincial cities. The leftwing opposition parties won a majority for the first time in French elections held on a countrywide basis, taking close to 52 per cent in yesterday's vote. The second major blow for the president was the defeat of his own hand-picked candidate by Gaullist leader Jacques Chirac in a race for the mayors of Paris, a post that has been vacant for a century. M. Chirac, prime minister until last August when he was ousted in a dispute with President Giscard d'Estaing, trounced Gaullist Minister Michel d'Ornano in the Paris contest. He now looks set to become mayor after a run-off vote against the opposition left next Sunday. The advance by the electoral coalition of Socialists and Communists was admitted by the main leaders of the "presidential majority" (Gaullists, Giscardian Independent Republicans, and centrists). The leftist thrust enabled Socialists or Communists to win outright on the first ballot in the mayoral battles in some 30 cities with a population of more than 30,000. There are 221 such cities in France. In the last municipal elections in 1971, the mayor's office was won by members of the "presidential majority" in 119 cities in this category. The Socialists, led by Francois Mitterrand, were the main beneficiaries of the leftist gains. But their Communist allies could also consider themselves winners. Thanks to the joint list, the Socialists, Communists had already won the mayor's office in many communities where they would otherwise have been also-rans. Leftwing leaders saw their gains at the municipal level as foreshadowing their victory in elections for parliament which are scheduled for the spring of next year. Mr. Chirac, an aggressive politician with his eyes on the presidency, seems convinced that he should be the man to lead France's anti-left forces in the campaign for next year's general elections. "When you galvanise the majority sufficiently, when you make a big effort to give it confidence, then you can hold off the left with no trouble," he declared last night. M. Chirac became disenchanted with the president after the leftwing emerged victorious in cantonal elections a year ago. The president refused to be pushed into calling early legislative elections which the Gaullist leader considered necessary to stem a leftwing tide. When he resigned as premier, M. Chirac threw himself into regaining his parliamentary seat, doing so with an improved majority, and then injecting new life into the demoralised Gaullist party, still the biggest in the three-party government coalition. If, as now seems probable, M. Chirac adds the Paris mayoralty to his collection of political scalp then his influence will be even greater. Political analysts assess the job of running the capital — directly controlled by the government since the 1871 commune uprising — as the third biggest in influence after that of the president and his prime minister. President Giscard d'Estaing discussed the situation today with Prime Minister Raymond Barre, a non-party economics expert who succeeded M. Chirac. M. Barre has the specific task of beating inflation, which the president believes is the key to winning next year's election. A three-month price freeze followed by cuts in the value-added-tax at the beginning of this year has kept the cost of living index down. But there are signs that prices could pick up again, which would be ammunition for the leftist opposition. M. Mitterrand said last night that only M. Chirac could force the president to call early elections. But the Gaullist leader claims he has no such intention.

## Tension runs high in Basque country for fifth consecutive day

MADRID, March 14 (Agencies) — Demonstrations continued in the Spanish Basque country today, three days after the government announced plans for an amnesty. Tension remained high as a 20-year-old Basque youth died today in a hospital in the northern city of San Sebastian after being hit by a police rubber bullet during violent demonstrations on Saturday night, hospital sources said. The sources said the youth, identified as Jose Luis Aristizabal, was hit by the bullet as he sat in his car trapped in a demonstration. San Sebastian has been the scene of five days of violent clashes between riot police and Basque nationalist demonstrators protesting against last week's killing by para-military civil guards of two alleged Basque separatists. In Zarauz, on the outskirts of San Sebastian, a general strike was observed today after a worker was reported wounded by civil guard bullets yesterday evening. Legal circles in San Sebastian said the civil guard had intervened in Zarauz as an audience of several hundred dispersed following a concert. An eyewitness alleged that police "forced people to kneel on the highway". Some people reportedly panicked, and there were "several bursts of machine gun fire on three or four occasions," the eyewitness said. He added that several drivers were forced to get out of their cars and were clubbed by civil guardsmen. A child passing by was "attacked by several policemen who shouted 'He's a Basque, we'll hit him.'" In Madrid, police today accused an official of Spain's state-run labour unions of having hired two gunmen who killed four Communist lawyers and a legal assistant in their office here on Jan. 24. Police named the man as Francisco Albadalejo Correda-

## Egypt presses for Security Council meet

UNITED NATIONS, March 14 (R). — Egypt today pressed for an early meeting of the Security Council to discuss efforts to revive the Geneva Middle East peace conference in light of Secretary General Kurt Waldheim's recent trip to the area. After raising the matter at a meeting with Mr. Waldheim, Egyptian Ambassador Ahmed Ismat Abdul Meguid told reporters that he had not yet submitted a formal request for a debate but could do so at any time. He thought it likely that the council would convene this week but said the date would depend on consultations with fellow members of the African group who are planning a series of council sessions on Southern African issues. The 15-nation council, of which Egypt is not a member, is to meet informally tomorrow to discuss its future programme of work. The Egyptian envoy also stressed the need for an early Middle East debate during an informal conversation last Friday with ambassador Andrew Young of the United States, council president for the month of March. Dr. Meguid told reporters his mission last month aimed at reactivating the dormant Geneva conference had been in the hands of the council president since March 1. Referring to a General Assembly resolution last December which called for such a report, the envoy added: "Our position is that the council should convene to discuss the situation in the Middle East in the light of the report of the secretary general."

## Ramallah prisoners begin hunger strike

TEL AVIV, March 14 (R). — Prisoners in Ramallah jail, in the occupied West Bank, today began a hunger strike to press demands for improved conditions. The 200 prisoners, all sentenced by Israeli military courts for security offences, are also supporting a group of 37 prisoners in Asqalan prison, who have been on hunger strike for more than two weeks, prison officials said in Tel Aviv.

## Arab, Jewish lawyers demonstrate ... p. 6

They added that a group of 49 prisoners, who had continued a hunger strike after being transferred from Asqalan a fortnight ago, ended their hunger strike today.

Meanwhile, some 200 West Bank schoolgirls today staged a demonstration in Beit Sahur, near Jerusalem. They were mourning the death of an Arab guerrilla alleged to have been murdered in Beersheba jail by fellow inmates.

## Owen to visit Syria, Egypt

DAMASCUS, March 14 (R). — British Foreign Secretary David Owen will pay an official visit to Syria on March 23 for talks with Syrian officials on the Middle East situation and bilateral relations, officials said here today.

He will also visit Egypt for similar talks, the officials added. He will go to Israel for similar discussions in early summer, after the general elections there in May, a Foreign Office spokesman said in London today.

These will be the first visits by Dr. Owen to the Middle East since becoming foreign secretary last month. His talks in Damascus will also enable him to discuss the possibility of a London visit by President Hafiz Assad who is due to meet President Carter somewhere in Europe in May, the British spokesman added.

The American President will be in London for an international economic summit meeting on May 7 and 8. Dr. Owen will visit Damascus and Cairo immediately after attending a meeting of the Central Treaty Organisation (CENTO) foreign ministers in Tehran. Details of his Middle East visits have yet to be worked out.

## Castro arrives in Addis Ababa

ADDIS ABABA, March 14 (AFP). — Cuban Premier Fidel Castro arrived here today for an "impromptu" visit shrouded in secrecy. Foreign journalists were not allowed to witness his arrival from Samalita at the airport here and no one knows how long the Cuban leader will stay. Observers here said Mr. Castro's visit marks an important step for the Ethiopian revolution and for the military leaders who see themselves as officially recognised for the first time — and by one of the progressist Third World's leaders. Cuba and Ethiopia established diplomatic ties in July 1975.

## But press is sceptical Rabin: U.S. will not impose terms on Israel

TEL AVIV, March 14 (R). — Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin today reported to the cabinet on his trip to Washington amid public uncertainty about its results. Cabinet sources said Mr. Rabin stressed that he had received assurances from President Carter that the United States would not attempt to impose its conditions for settlement in the Middle East. Mr. Rabin also underlined agreement between the two countries on opposition to the creation of an independent Palestinian state and on the need for Israel to have defensible borders, the sources said. It is the borders issue which has caused the most anxiety here since President Carter told a Washington press conference that Israel would have to make substantial withdrawals from Arab territory captured in the 1967 Middle East war, and that its final borders would reflect only minor adjustments. Mr. Carter added, however, that Israel might retain a military presence beyond these borders, presumably until full peace was achieved. Mr. Rabin, who returned here last night, has been stressing this last point, stating that it introduced new concepts into American thinking on the Middle East. Mr. Rabin said in a television interview broadcast in New York yesterday that President Carter had moved closer to Israel's view on what form a Middle East peace should take. "For the first time, the president's definition of what he means by peace is closer to the Israeli definition than ever," he said. "He recognises the need for defensible boundaries that might differ from the political boundaries. It's a very interesting proposition that has to be explored," Mr. Rabin added. The Israeli premier said repeatedly he was surprised that Mr. Carter had expressed his views in public. He restated that Israel would not return to the pre-1967 boundaries. "For a real peace, Israel is ready for territorial compromises. Not to go back to the lines that existed before the six-day war, because they are not defensible."

## Carter "not dismayed" by M.E. reactions

WASHINGTON, March 14 (R). — President Carter is not dismayed by the critical reaction of Israeli and Egyptian leaders to his views about the possible nature of a Middle East settlement, White House Press Secretary Jody Powell said today. He was replying to a question about Israeli Premier Yitzhak Rabin's rejection of a proposal that his country pull back to pre-1967 borders, with minor revisions, and a statement by Egypt's President Anwar Sadat that he would not cede an inch of territory. "The president is not dismayed," Mr. Powell said. "He recognises that if there were any easy options... such a crucial matter would have been solved long before this administration took office."

## Lebanese forces take up positions in the south

BEIRUT, March 14 (AFP). — A first 75-man detachment from Lebanese Internal Security Forces has taken up positions in south Lebanon to halt inter-community fighting near the Israeli border, an informed source said here today. The detachment, sent by the government last night, is a vanguard of Lebanese contingents in a region in which fighting has gone on for two months, and border villages have come under intermittent Israeli shelling, the source said. New fighting broke out yesterday after a brief truce, between Lebanese conservative forces on the one hand and Lebanese leftwing and Palestinian forces on the other. The aim of the security contingents, which could reach 2,000 men with modern heavy equipment supplied mainly by Syria, was to re-establish an effective presence in last Lebanese region still outside government control following the civil war. An informed source said the peace plan for south Lebanon, drawn up by President Elias Sarkis, provided for control by the Lebanese security force in all zones at present in the hands of the belligerents. The force will not be limited to taking up positions between the two camps, and at a later stage will call in heavy arms, the source added. Mr. Sarkis was reported to have approval for the plan from Presidents Hafez Assad and Anwar Sadat. Informed sources said the security contingents will include plainclothes units of the Syrian-controlled Sa'ida Palestinian movement, to enforce a ceasefire on Palestinians in the border zone.

## Italy reported quiet but tense following weekend violence

LOGNA, Italy, March 14 (R). — Thousands of young leftists today paid their last respects to comrades whose death in a construction here last Friday killed a chain of demonstrations in cities throughout Italy over the weekend. The coffin of Francesco Losco, a student shot by police circumstances still to be cleared, was draped in a red flag and greeted with clenched fist signs. His death was followed by demonstrations in Bologna, Rome and other major Italian cities. A Rome today Interior Minister Francesco Cossiga told Parliament in a statement that the government may submit special legislation in order to deal with the situation. Authorities would make a study of the weekend demonstrations and would then take the necessary measures, both on a technical level and on the level of possible legislative measures which might be deemed indispensable to halt the spiral of organised violence," he said. In a newspaper interview published today, the minister left open the possibility of a state of emergency being declared if the situation worsened. On the foreign exchange markets the lira today lost one and a half points against the dollar in a surprise fall which dealers said was partly due to the demonstrations. Police said about 6,000 people attended today's funeral ceremony in Bologna. Demonstrations had been forbidden in the city apart from on the 300 metres of road between the church where the funeral service was held and the cemetery. All political parties from left to right in the political spectrum have condemned the weekend violence and most leftwing parties blamed the trouble on small groups of provocateurs.

## Gromyko tells Caglayanil:

## SSR ready to improve relations with Turkey

MOSCOW, March 14 (R). — Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko today pledged the Soviet Union's readiness to work for a continued improvement relations with Turkey. He told Turkish Foreign Minister Ibrahim Sabri Caglayanil, who arrived yesterday on an official visit, that if their countries were to develop "an ascending line", both countries must be ready to take the necessary steps. "As regards our side, I can assure you that we are prepared to take such steps," he declared. Mr. Gromyko, whose speech was reported by Tass news agency, spoke at a luncheon in Mr. Caglayanil's honour after the two ministers opened talks on bilateral and international issues. While in Moscow, Mr. Caglayanil is expected to sign a year-long economic agreement which is believed to provide for \$120 million of Soviet aid to Turkey. Mr. Gromyko, as quoted by Tass, did not detail the steps he thought the two countries could take to develop closer ties, but he was apparently referring to the prospects of a Soviet-Turkish friendship treaty. Moscow and Ankara reached preliminary agreement on such a pact in 1975 but have so far differed on the wording. The Turks were understood to consider a Soviet draft too close to a "non-aggression pact" formula. Moscow watched with undisguised satisfaction as signs of strain appeared in Turkey's relations with the West largely due to U.S. limitations on arms supplies imposed after the Turkish invasion of Cyprus in 1974. In his speech today, Mr. Gromyko pointedly referred to the era of Lenin, founder of the Soviet state, and Turkey's first President, Mustafa Kemal (Ataturk), when "our states jointly fought against their common enemies". Mr. Gromyko mentioned no country by name, but he apparently had in mind the U.S., Britain and France — who all intervened in Russia after the 1917 Bolshevik revolution and also backed Greece against Turkey after World War One. Turning to Cyprus, Mr. Gromyko said Moscow welcomed efforts to restore trust between the island's Greek and Turkish communities. He made no reference to past Soviet allegations that NATO wanted to turn the island into a military stronghold. But he stressed the known Soviet view that the Cyprus question should be settled with strict respect for its sovereignty, territorial integrity and policy of non-alignment. Mr. Gromyko also said Moscow hoped Turkey would contribute to the implementation of Soviet disarmament proposals. Mr. Caglayanil stressed the need to establish first of all an effective system of verification. In his speech Mr. Caglayanil said there were good prospects for developing Soviet-Turkish cooperation in all areas. "We are proud to have turned the Turkish-Soviet border into a border of peace, cooperation and friendship," he declared.







## British-Jordanian study proceeds on multiple sclerosis

By Fernando Francis  
Special to the Jordan Times

was announced today at Hussein Medical City (HMC) a 10-day-old collaborative study on multiple sclerosis (M.S.) is being carried between a group of doctors at HMC and a team from United Kingdom.

The study is one of the commonest diseases that affects the nervous system, and may lead to blindness, difficulty in speech and paralysis in the legs and arms.

This disease was thought to be rare in Jordan until about four years ago, when the first neurological unit was established at the Royal Medical Services in 1972. It started to record an increasing number of patients suffering from M.S. about 100 cases now, of which 95 per cent are from Jordan and the neighbouring Arab countries. The other 5 per cent are foreigners living and working in Jordan.

This relatively high incidence rate suggests that a detailed study will certainly advance knowledge of the disease. Many eminent centres concerned were approached to initiate this study before the British team was chosen.

This is not the first research work done at the neuro-sciences unit at HMC. Previously, work centred on causes of optic atrophy in Jordan; cerebral death; a brief review of the first 1,000 patients on whom electroencephalogram (EEG) was done.

The neuro-sciences unit at HMC comprises the following sub-specialties: clinical neurology; neurosurgery; neuro-pediatrics; neuro-radiology; neuro-ophthalmology; neuro-otology; clinical neuro-psychology; and a complete team of well-qualified nurses and technicians.

If this research study goes as planned, it will relieve the agony of many people now suffering from multiple sclerosis.

Twenty-year-old Mohammad Mahmoud Jaradat of Beshra in Irbid is one of these people: "I felt the symptoms of this disease for the first time in 1974, while serving in the army. My legs were paralysed, and it was difficult for me to speak. I was admitted for the first time to HMC, and I stayed 43 days, after which I was discharged. I was alright till last February, when I felt the same symptoms. I was admitted to the hospital once again.

Yasmine Farah Al Mualim, a 24-year-old patient from the West Bank, said that in 1974 she complained of lack of vision and weakness in her right

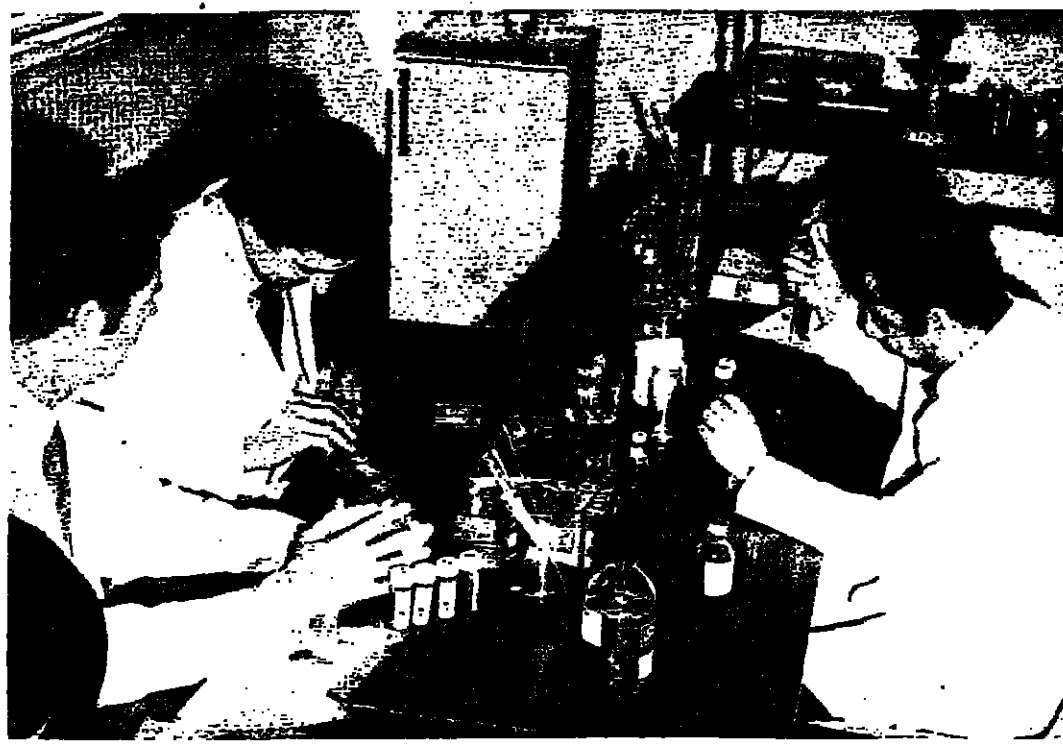
hand. She did not go to a doctor and a month later felt that she was back to normal. In 1975 the same symptoms returned -- this time on the left side. She went to the Women's Medical Union in Nablus, where she was treated with medicine. This did not help.

Mrs. Nuheil Youssef Al Naber -- from the West Bank -- has complained of the same disease for 16 years. Her husband has been a paraplegic patient for a few years. She said that after these long years of treatment, she hopes that His Majesty the King will listen to her appeal and help her with the treatment fees which she cannot afford.

John Tamari, a pharmacist, has been complaining about the same symptoms, and hopes that the efforts being carried out now will succeed in helping him to be his normal self again.

The study will proceed for two weeks, after which the doctors can start the arduous task of finding a cure.

Members of the British-Jordanian team work to ease the pain of multiple sclerosis.



Members of the British-Jordanian team work to ease the pain of multiple sclerosis.

### NAZARETH ARABS

### PAY CONDOLENCES

### TO KING HUSSEIN

AMMAN (R). — Sixteen Israeli Arabs Monday crossed King Hussein Bridge to pay a condolence visit to King Hussein on the death of Queen Aiyia.

The group, mostly from the Nazareth area, was the latest of many to visit the King during the past few weeks.

## FERTILISER PLANT LOAN APPROVED

AMMAN (Agencies). — An agreement was signed Monday whereby France will loan Jordan JD 17 million to finance a phosphate plant to the south of Aqaba.

The loan is to be repaid over 25 years at 3.5 per cent interest.

The main contractor, Spie Batignolles, has already completed the first phase of preparatory work for the project. The French company is already put out tenders for excavation work. This work is expected to begin not later than the end of June.

Total cost of the fertiliser project will reach JD 100 million and arrangements are currently being made to secure the necessary loans for financing the project.

## What's Going On

A film entitled "Sleuth", starring Lawrence Olivier and Michael Caine, 6:30 p.m., at the British Council, Jabel Amman.

The Goethe Institute presents a film entitled "Dr. Mabuse — Inferno des Verbrechens", 8:00 p.m., at the Goethe Institute, Jabel Amman.

Its aim is to define and outline the educational, cultural and literary movement in Jordan. In addition to studying the difficulties and problems facing the local writer in different fields.

Participants will divide into three committees on the writer and contemporary organisations, the writer face to face with publication and distribu-

## Society to discuss problems of writer

AMMAN (J.T.). — A seminar on Jordanian writers' affairs will be held at the Jordanian Writers Society headquarters at 5 p.m. Tuesday.

The society has called this seminar to hold discussions on seven subjects submitted by participants. Two of the subjects are presented by the society itself.

## Jarash, Mafrq villages to see improvements

AMMAN (JNA). — Prince Hassan Sunday paid a visit to a number of villages of the Ban Hassan tribes in the Jarash and Mafrq districts and stressed the need to improve conditions for inhabitants there.

He visited the villages of Mushairfeh, Qafqafa, East Mushairfeh, Dajanih, Rehab, Abu Al Soussa, Khnaizir, Hameed, West and East Hayyan, Hayyan Al Sharaf, Eidoun and Um Zeitouneh.

Prince Hassan listened to the requests of the sheikhs and no-

tables of these villages and ordered that necessary arrangements be made to meet them. These included the opening of more preparatory and secondary schools, clinics and post office branches, as well as the supply of water and electricity.

Prince Hassan also ordered teachers to be provided with suitable accommodation. Roads leading to several villages will also be asphalted.

## ISLAMIC FUND ALLOCATES \$1.5m TO JERUSALEM

ABU DHABI, March 14 (JNA). The Permanent Council of the Islamic Solidarity Fund, meeting here, has allocated \$1.5 million to Arab Jerusalem to help it resist judaisation.

The council also earmarked \$1.5 million to support Islamic societies throughout the world. \$400,000 will go to earthquake victims in Turkey.

The council, which opened Saturday, is attended by representatives of 13 Moslem countries, including Jordan.

## Badran reviews recent M.E. developments

AMMAN (JNA). — During his meeting with members of the Upper House of Parliament, Prime Minister Mudar Badran Sunday reviewed political developments in the Arab World, and Jordan in particular, in the light of recent meetings in Amman and other Arab capitals.

Premier Badran also reported to the Upper House on the recent discussions in Amman with the American, French, West German and Greek foreign ministers, as well as with a PLO delegation.

He further reviewed the Afro-Arab summit and the discussions, which King Hussein held with PLO leader Yasser Arafat during his meeting in Cairo.

port to the Cabinet on the work and results of the Afro-Arab summit. He referred in particular to the role played by the King at the summit, which had on obvious effect on the results of the conference.

King Hussein's talks with a number of Arab and African leaders dealt mainly with the promotion of bilateral cooperation in the economic, cultural and technical fields, Mr. Badran pointed out.

He also reported on King Hussein's talks with Mr. Arafat on developments in the Middle East and efforts being made to bring about peace in the area.

## Kuwaiti loan for projects discussed

AMMAN (JNA). — A draft agreement has been prepared under which the Jordanian government will receive an 8.9 million Kuwaiti dinar loan from the Kuwaiti Fund for Arab Economic Development.

A delegation from the fund left here Monday after a two-week visit to Jordan, during which they held talks with officials on financing a number of projects.

If the loan is approved, it will be used to boost potash production and ensure its transportation, as well as to finance the King Talal Dam and the Hussein Thermal Power Station.

## King visits front-line division

AMMAN (JNA). — His Majesty King Hussein Sunday visited units of the Royal Fourth Mechanised Division. He inspected military positions on the confrontation line and met with division commanders and soldiers.

The King was accompanied by Gen. Zeid Ibn Shaker, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces.

## Exchange Rates

Following are the official exchange rates in effect at the start of today's business day, as set by the Central Bank of Jordan.

The first column is how much you would receive in Jordanian dinars for selling a unit of the foreign currency, while the second column denotes how much it would cost you to buy a unit of the foreign currency:

U.K. sterling	572.0	578.0
U.S. dollar	332.0	334.0
German mark	138.9	139.3
French franc	68.7	67.0
Swiss franc	130.2	130.6
Italian lira (for every 100)	37.6	37.8
Saudi riyal	83.7	84.0
Lebanese pound	108.9	109.4
Syrian pound	82.1	82.3
Iraqi dinar	943.0	950.0
Kuwaiti dinar	1,150.0	1,153.0
Egyptian pound	484.0	472.0
Libyan dinar	800.0	810.0
UAE dirham	85.0	85.3

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## NATIONAL NOTES

AMMAN. — Jordan Monday notified the Islamic Conference's secretariat of its approval of Saudi Arabia's proposal to postpone meeting of Islamic foreign ministers until after July. The meeting was originally scheduled for May in Libya.

AMMAN. — Minister of Education Abdul Salam Majali Monday led over a meeting of education directors in the various governorates and districts to review the steps taken by the ministry to celebrate Teachers' Day Wednesday.

AMMAN. — The commander of the special forces Monday graded a new group of paratroopers comprising army officers, and public security members.

AMMAN. — Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Hassan Ibrahim Monday received the West German charge d'affaires in Amman.

AMMAN. — The acting Secretary General at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Zaki Al Qususi, Monday received the Saudi ambassador to Jordan and Jordan's ambassador to Egypt.

AMMAN. — Minister of Culture and Youth, Sharif Fawwaz Monday received the North Korean ambassador to Jordan, and invited him to visit North Korea.

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# The winds of change sweep most of Africa into new found freedom

LONDON (Gemin) — The pace of world change is so fast in this second half of the 20th century that today it seems hardly conceivable that in 1957 the whole black Africa except Liberia and Ethiopia and most of Arab Africa -- altogether about nine-tenths of the continent -- were ruled by the British, French, Belgians, Portuguese and Spanish.

Today the only colony left is Rhodesia (and that is not now a colony in the normal sense) with South Africa and its illegal appendage Namibia under minority rule.

It has been a stunning 20 years. Few had predicted that Ghana's independence would be the signal for a quick colonial scramble from Africa.

The British, most important of the colonial powers, were working on the basis that its colonies would one by one, over the ensuing two or three decades, gradually become self-governing and then independent. Places like Northern Rhodesia (Zambia) and Bechuanaland (Botswana) were still at Gha-

na's independence being governed in a traditional colonial manner with Africans having almost no say in government. The French and Belgians had no worked-out concept for the future and the Portuguese had every intention of staying in Africa for ever.

Yet only three years after Ghana's independence, in 1960, sixteen colonies were given their independence, and by the end of the sixties most of the others were free.

The move happened because in London and Paris it was quickly recognised by the governments of Harold Macmillan and President de Gaulle -- both pragmatic governments of the right -- that the game was up. Colonialism was no longer a tenable proposition for the times and to hang on would mean bloodshed and an open-ended strain on the financial and military resources of the metropolitan countries that they could not sustain.

The British, in any case, had not needed to be persuaded in to eventual decolonisation.

They had already been in the business for many years, having left India in 1947 and Malaya in 1957.

Today it is common in ex-colonial countries like Britain to talk about what might have been in Africa. The older generation, fed on headlines about what has gone wrong rather than what has gone right, still believe in a vague and unthinking way that Britain should have stayed on and that what has happened since is exactly what they said would happen. The Africans, they say, were "not ready" for independence -- whatever "ready" may mean.

Really, though, in saying this they are condemning their own colonial performance because they are admitting that the African people were not provided with enough education and not given enough say in administration and so were short of experience when they took over. And that, of course, was the case.

Some colonies had only a handful of graduates at independence; the most scandalous

example was in the Belgian Congo (now Zaire), a country almost as big as the whole of Europe, which had fewer African graduates than one human being has fingers and only one qualified African doctor.

What is remarkable about Africa since 1957, bearing in mind that in a few years something like 50 new nations came into existence and took their place on the international world stage, is the amount of progress that has been made in many areas and the amount of order, not the amount of disorder, that has prevailed.

For in the first place almost none of the borders of these 50 countries makes sense; all are lines mostly drawn on the map by the colonial powers in the 19th century to suit their whims and fancies -- and their rivalries. In some countries, power was handed over overnight without even a minimum of preparation for government.

Countries like Ghana and Nigeria were in a different category; there Africans had been active in government right back to the twenties. But in the Congo the Belgians, having created no programme for the introduction of an Africa government suddenly held the country's first general election in its history and then, within days, walked out. It was a recipe for chaos; it could not have been otherwise. The Congo became an immediate target for big power rivalry and for the next few years the rest of Africa struggled to erase the independence-means-chaos image that the Congo had given the entire continent.

There were other colonial legacies which Africa had some how to overcome. French Africa and British Africa were worlds apart; communications between the two sets of colonies -- many of them neighbours -- were almost nil. Railways, roads, telephone lines had always been installed for the convenience of the colonial power and not of the African inhabitants.

None of the new countries had a national identity; there could be no patriotic feeling for a colony called Northern Rhodesia or the Gold Coast, except a falsely installed patriotism for Britain -- nor was any encouraged for obvious reasons. Education of children was not about the traditions of the Ashanti or the Kikuyu or the Shona, but about the Battle of Trafalgar or Guy Fawkes or William of Orange.

For government what was passed down in the British colonies was the Westminster system of government -- a sophisticated one if ever there was -- full of English eccentricities like the Mace and the Chief Whip and the concept of "Her Majesty's Loyal Opposition". The colonial powers, to be fair, could only pass on what they knew from their own experience and there is not much else they could have done in the circumstances, but it should have surprised nobody -- though, apparently it did -- that African governments set about working out new systems suited to their own environment. It did mean, however, that drastic changes of constitution inevitably brought the risk of poli-

tical turmoil to a greater or lesser degree.

What is really disappointing about the history of the wind of change in Africa is not that it was done so quickly but that it was not completed and worked through to its proper conclusion.

The French went on their way (jumping the high fence of Algeria after much bloodshed, but leaving an unhealthy economic grip on its weaker ex-colonies); the Belgians went quickly into a shambles; the British handled the situation better than any other colonial power, but then fumbled the last fence, Rhodesia, with appalling consequences for the whole continent; and the Portuguese resisted for 15 years and then left in disorder.

The consequences of Britain's failure in Rhodesia and Portugal's intransigence together with the presence of white-dominated apartheid-run South Africa have been responsible for most of the tensions and upheavals that have troubled Africa in these last twenty years.

If Portugal had decolonised in the early Sixties along with the other colonial powers and if the British had forced a transition to majority rule in Rhodesia, which it could perfectly well have done if it had shown the political will and courage that it had displayed earlier, notably in Kenya, then the story of black Africa's first twenty years would have been a very different and much calmer one.

That is not to say this would have stopped civil war breaking out in Nigeria, or a coup in Uganda bringing to power a tyrant, or the excesses in countries like the Central African Republic or Equatorial Guinea. But the enormous strains put on countries like Zambia, Zaire, Tanzania and many others by events in Mozambique, Angola, Rhodesia and Namibia -- the enormous diversion of political energy and the disruption of young countries economic lines of communication (the huge difficulties encountered for example by Zambia in getting its goods in and out as a result of the Angolan and Rhodesian disruption) have been of cruel dimensions.

Even more seriously, the failure of the colonial powers to force through decolonisation to its logical conclusions has, apart from the bloodshed that is still going on and seems bound to escalate in the next few years, produced the very development that they and the Africans wanted to avoid: the involvement of the superpowers in African affairs.

The Russians and Americans became engaged in Angola and today we see the United States involving itself in the Rhodesian problem -- and an area where it has no historical links whatsoever -- and we see the Russians, as was to be expected in the circumstances, helping the guerrillas in Rhodesia. The longer the Europeans try to hold on the deeper will become the Russian and American involvement with all the obvious consequences for peace in Southern Africa.

It would be naive to contend that the since idealism of the wind of change period, Pan-Africanism has been fulfilled. But to argue as some Europeans do, that independence in Africa has been an unmitigated disaster is equally naive and does not bear factual examination.

Some of the poorest countries; and Africa contains many of the world's poorest of all -- have made little headway -- they hardly had a chance in the present world economic order of things anyway. But some countries have made great strides economically and socially; independence opened doors to international investment and trade and forced dramatic economic development.

For every country in Africa that has a degree of instability there is another that is stable and progressing. Uganda we all know about, but who examines

the quiet progress of countries like Cameroon and Botswana? Against those countries like Benin which suffer from coups must be set the stability of the governments in Tanzania, Zambia, Kenya, Malawi, Ivory Coast, Gambia, Swaziland and

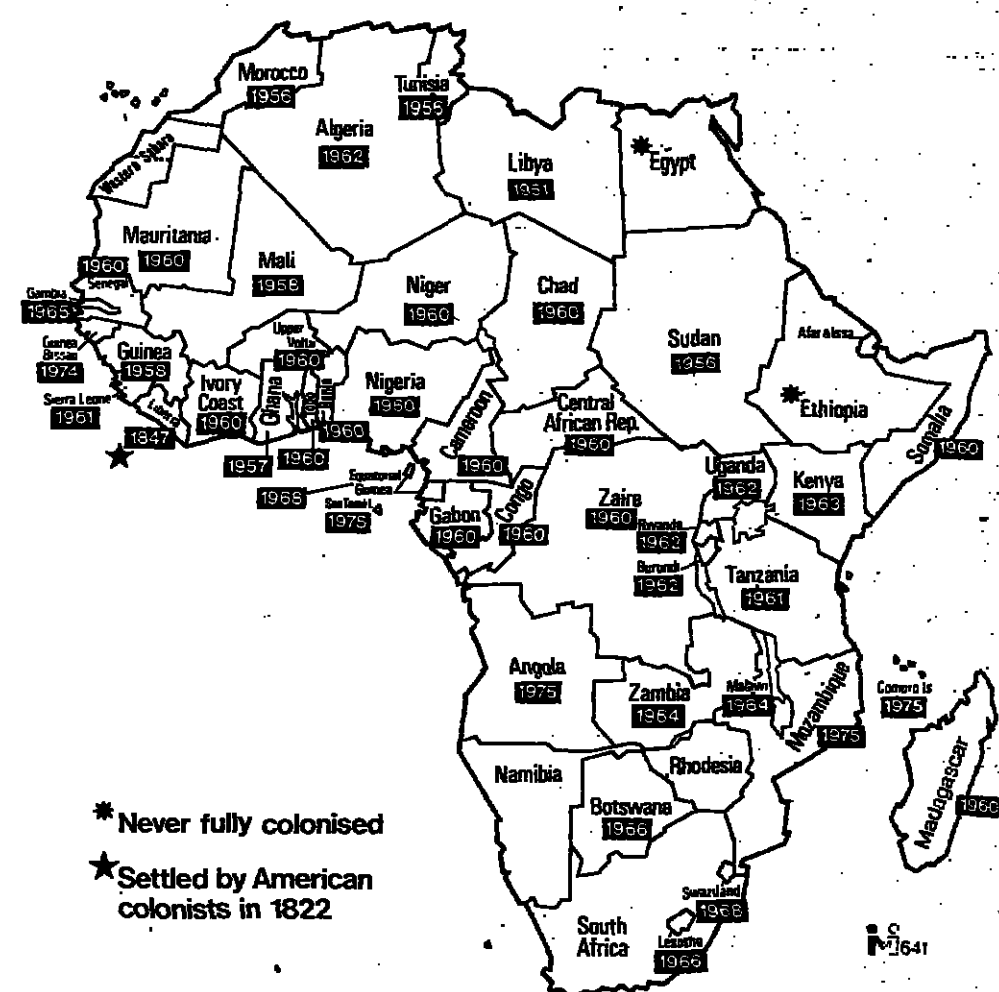
many more. In vast areas of Africa no shot has been fired in anger. Life goes on, troubled by poverty and disease, but not by political strife.

We now begin to see the colonial era in Africa -- in some areas 500 years but in others

less than a hundred -- a small period in a historical context. The change in the air had to come and it was that it should have been reached through quickly. What a tragedy that it not done completely!

## HOW THE WIND CHANGED

Africa's independence dates country by country



## Civil rights activists find hope in FBI investigation after 5 year imprisonment

President Carter and his new Attorney General, Judge Griffin Bell, are both Southerners, from an area traditionally unfair to black people. But it is Judge Bell who has ordered a top-level investigation into the case of ten civil rights activists who seem to have been deprived of justice for five years.

WASHINGTON, D.C. (F.T.)

— No cabinet appointment by President Jimmy Carter was greeted with such outrage by blacks and liberals as the nomination of former Appeals Court Judge Griffin B. Bell for Attorney General.

Mr. Carter had promised his supporters a special "sensitivity" to black problems and a concern for racial justice. Washington waited expectantly for the naming of the first Black American Attorney General, a female nominee or, at the very least, a well certified liberal. Instead, the president shocked many followers with his choice of Mr. Bell, a fellow Georgian with, at best, a mixed record on civil rights.

His swearing-in ceremony, with the president looking on, was a joint effort in the brand of "symbolic" leadership for which the Carter administration is becoming known. Flung open the massive steel doors of the Justice Department, which had been locked as a security precaution against demonstrators and terrorists since 1970, the new Attorney General announced, "We're coming out from behind the barricades."

The locked doors, the president added, were "symbolic of a separation of the disaffected and the disadvantaged from the core of justice."

The attorney general's stress on equal justice and his subsequent naming of two black men and two women to department leadership posts went some way towards mollifying his critics.

But more significant still, was one of his first acts as attorney general: The ordering of a high priority investigation by the FBI and the Department's Civil Rights Division in the controversial case of "The Wilmington Ten."

While thousands of demonstrators and civil rights workers had been thrust into southern jails during the 1960's relatively few were held for long-term periods. In Wilmington, North Carolina, in 1972, the authorities convicted ten activists -- a black minister, a white woman social worker

and eight black youths of acts of arson and related violence. The ten were sentenced to unprecedented combined prison terms totalling 282 years, amid considerable controversy about the way the case was conducted.

Under the American system, arson is tried in the individual state courts rather than in the federal system. Mr. Bell's intervention is the more significant because it has become rare for the federal government to intervene in a state court. The federal investigation can lead to a new trial and federal charges against any who may have been found to have deprived the defendants of their civil rights.

Despite its image as a progressive southern state, North Carolina has always had the reputation of being tightly controlled by conservative business interests. Large industries dominate the state, and its politicians are well aware of its importance. Only 7 per cent of the state's workers are organised into unions, the lowest percentage in the nation. The state has no black representation in Congress.

Since the post-reconstruction period, black peoples' efforts to organise either politically or economically have met fierce resistance. In the late 1960's, following the assassination of civil rights leader Martin Luther King, Jr., a new generation of blacks emerged, determined to gain full civil rights. Their first target was the newly desegregated schools.

The arrests of the ten defendants came more than a year after a period of extreme racial turbulence in Wilmington. Black students were complaining about racial prejudice in high schools, of the death of black teachers, of the lack of courses on black culture.

Their protests escalated into racial violence. The Ku Klux Klan and another white vigilante group were roaming through the streets of the black neighbourhood, and the blacks were fighting back.

To calm the black community, the state's Good Neighbourhood Council called in the central figure in the case, the Rev. Benjamin Chavis, a young, charismatic minister with a chemistry degree from the University of North Carolina, a seasoned leader of non-violent protests.

"We were glad to have Ben," says the Rev. Aaron Johnson, a former council member. "There was no leadership, no black leadership at all, in Wilmington. Militants were

starting to stream in from other cities, even from out state, and they were trying to get control of Wilmington. Chavis was about only man we knew who could prevent that and still have chance of keeping a life things."

Still, a black youth was killed by police. A white-owned store was firebombed. A white man was killed, and others were wounded. Night curfew was imposed and violence died out.

During the year following the protests, the Rev. Chavis led the Wilmington blacks in organising a new community church, and a political assembly. Thirteen months after the store was fire-bombed, he and his followers were arrested and charged with the crime.

The case is now being taken to appeal on procedural grounds. At the state trial in June, 1972, the original jury of ten blacks and two whites was dismissed after the assistant prosecutor became ill and complained of stomach pain.

When the trial began again in September, the judge was not agree that membership in the Ku Klux Klan was a bar for rejecting prospective jurors. The second jury consisted of ten whites and two blacks. Defence witnesses failed to appear at the trial, fearful they now say, reprisals and arrests. Now, protected by publicity, the interest in the federal government, participants are prepared to testify that the defendants were with them at the time the crime was committed.

Two key prosecution witnesses were serving sentences for other crimes and had received favourable treatment by the government. One of them, Al Ray Hall, has recanted a testimony.

In a statement dated September 24, 1976, Mr. Hall said "I did not know Ben Chavis or the other Wilmington Ten until Mr. (Jay) Stroud (the assistant prosecutor) told me their names. I did not see any of the Wilmington Ten do anything wrong. The details told me that if I did not along with them that they could put me in prison for life."

Another witness, who was 14 at the time of the trial, said he was given a blow and a job by the prosecutor return for his false testimony.

The Wilmington Ten, who have been languishing in prison since the case failed to get a supreme court hearing in January, 1976, and served many months in their arrest while hundreds of thousands of dollars were raised for bail, have long complained about the "irregularities" of their trial.

Almost five years after the ordeal began, the Justice Department, under a Southern Attorney General, has finally a ven them cause for hope.

## IMF suggests OPEC involvement in new financial programme to relieve Third World debts

WASHINGTON, D.C. (CSM). — Dr. Arthur F. Burns, Chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, has raised to the official level a matter that has troubled some financial experts for months: The growing loans by commercial banks of industrial countries to the Third World.

Speaking to the Joint Economic Committee recently, Dr. Burns called on the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to take a surveillance role to prevent overexposure of commercial bank lending in the less developed countries.

"We need to develop the rule of law in this field," he said, "and the only instrument for this is the IMF. Unless we have the rule of law, we will have chaos."

Dr. Burns' suggestion is of more than financial importance; it has political significance. He was implying that commercial bank loans be keyed to acceptance by the borrowing countries of IMF conditions.

When the IMF sets "conditions," it tells a nation to make policy changes that are often political dynamite. It could, for instance, demand a reduction in government spending, an increase in taxation, the tightening of monetary conditions, or even an improvement in the efficiency of government corporations.

Though such actions may often be necessary, they sometimes bring a temporary reduction in living standards. No Third World politician finds that thought a happy one.

Opinions on the seriousness of the Third World debt problem differ. For instance, Roger H. Cass, in a 150-page study for NAE Research Associates,

speaks of "the enormous, rapidly growing, and daily more unstable pyramid of Third World debt" that could bring "its disastrous but ultimately inevitable collapse."

On the other hand, Argus Research Corporation maintains that "there is a low probability of occurrence for the full sequence of events required to produce actual write-offs of LDC (less developed country) debt -- even on an isolated basis. We believe the prophets of gloom are overdoing it."

Perhaps actual events will lie somewhere between these two views -- some countries may have to refinance their debts. In any event, the issue is dangerous enough that one major leader to Third World countries, the Morgan Guaranty Trust Company, also has proposed that the IMF's role be enlarged and upgraded to help prevent a financial crisis.

"The willingness of banks to continue to provide a sizable portion of the balance-of-payments financing requirements of non-OPEC LDCs and various industrial countries clearly would be enhanced by a better balancing of the roles of official and private sources of financing," says Morgan Guaranty in last month's World Financial Markets publication.

"Morgan Guaranty calls for a major increase in the fund's ability to lend to its member countries. 'The amount of IMF credit available has to be large enough to induce a country to submit itself to the conditions imposed by the fund,' it notes.

Morgan Guaranty refers with apparent approval to a suggestion made at Jamaica in January, 1976, by the interim com-

mittee of the board of governors of the IMF of the possibility of providing so-called "super tranches" -- loans beyond the normal lending capacity of the IMF.

It also suggests that OPEC (Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries) with huge international payments surpluses be brought into another IMF facility, the General Arrangements to Borrow (GAB). The GAB now includes the 10 major industrial members of the fund, plus Switzerland. This change would be made to increase IMF access to oil country surplus funds. Also, GAB resources would be made useable beyond the industrial countries (as now restricted) to Third World nations.

Morgan Guaranty estimates that the combined external debt of the non-OPEC LDCs reached an estimated 180 billion dollars by the end of 1976. Of this, approximately 75 billion dollars was owed to commercial banks in industrial countries. They could run up another 32 billion dollars current-account deficit this year, adding hugely to their debts.

NAE Research Associates is a bit more pessimistic, putting the current account deficit (international payments deficit) at 36 billion dollars. Also, the non-OPEC LDCs have a 17 billion dollar amortisation requirement on their old debts, NAE Research estimates.

Advices Morgan Guaranty: "The Fund (IMF) should assume a more aggressive posture, reaching for new resources and also for new ideas and talent. Furthermore, efforts should be made to forge a new partnership between the fund and the private financial institutions of the world, involving a mutual sharing of information and opinion. The needs of the present situation demand no less."

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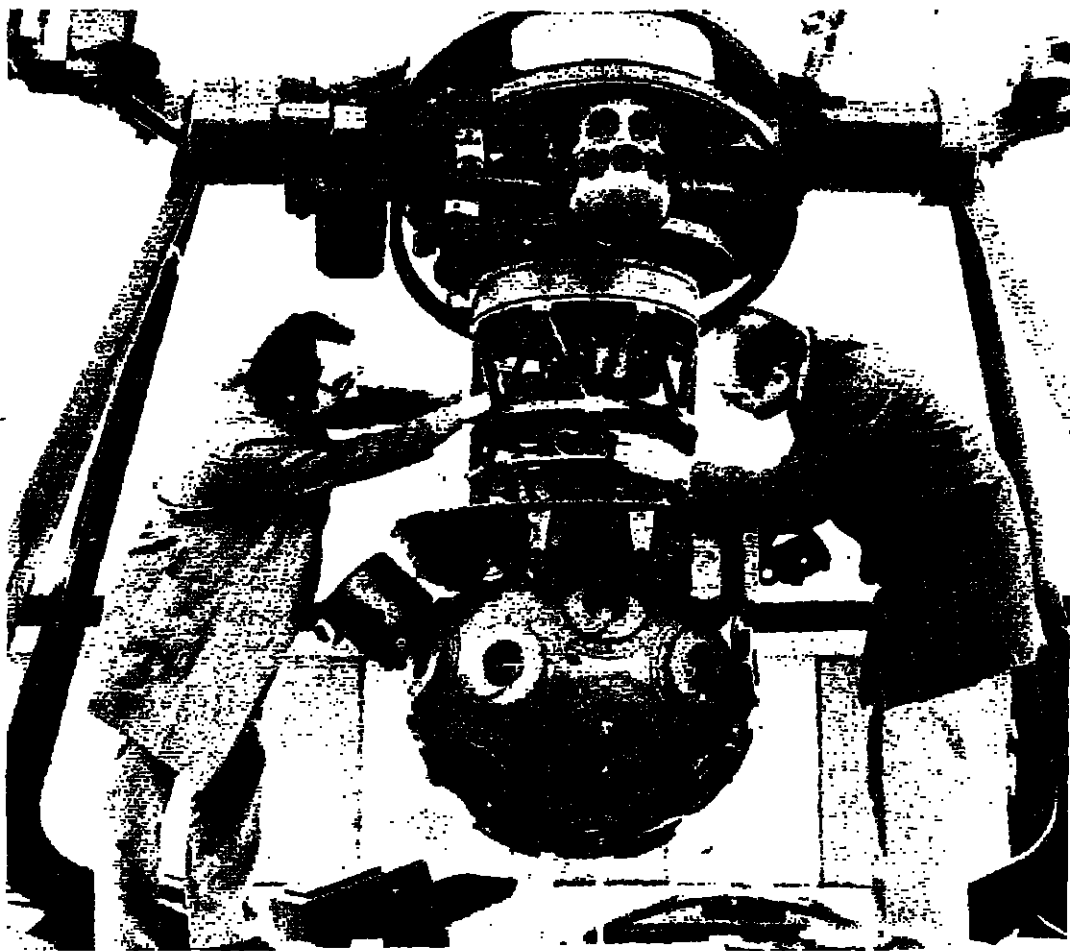
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## THE PAGE FIVE FEATURE PHOTO



**STAR-GAZING** -- The most modern planetarium in the world will be shown at this April's National Garden Exhibition in West Germany. More than five metres high, the apparatus was made by the optical firm of Carl Zeiss, and consists of more than 30,000 parts.

It contains 14 motors, 170 cogwheels with linking chains, and 230 sets of roller bearings for the adjustment of the 150 projectors.

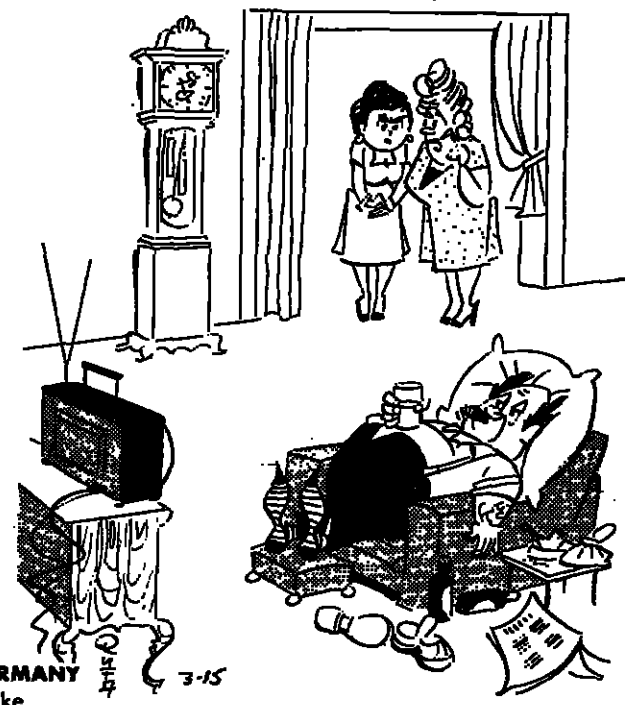
Nearly 9,000 stars can be projected onto the inside dome of the planetarium. Astronomers can "reconstruct" the heavens as they probably looked back at the time of Christ, or give a prediction how the skies at night will look in, say, the year 5000.

**GRAFFITI**

WHISTLER'S MOTHER WAS FRAMED AND HUNG

...HALLO!  
IS THIS 6771-2-3-4?  
I'D LIKE TO RESERVE  
A SPACE FOR AN AD IN  
THE JORDAN TIMES...

## LAUGHS FROM EUROPE



GERMANY  
Facke

"I worry very much about what he'll do after he retires."

FORECAST FOR TUESDAY, MARCH 15, 1977

## Your Daily HOROSCOPE

from the CARROLL RIGHTER INSTITUTE

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** A day when there could be minor annoyances, especially where unresolved situations of the past are concerned. Look for new ideas by which you can streamline your activities.

**ARIES** (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Clarify your true aims and know the best way to go after them. Check your surroundings and make necessary repairs.

**TAURUS** (Apr. 20 to May 20) Consult higher-ups and get the backing you need. Make certain to handle credit affairs wisely. Take health treatments.

**GEMINI** (May 21 to June 21) You are tempted to go off in new directions but this requires careful thought. Take time for social pleasures.

**MOON CHILDREN** (June 22 to July 21) Ideal day to carry through with promises you have made to others instead of going off on some new tangent.

**LEO** (July 22 to Aug. 21) Contact a business expert for advice you need. Don't throw away any bookkeeping receipts that may be needed later.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Be sure to handle routine duties instead of going off on any silly tangents. Sidestep one who has an eye on your assets.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Give more time to your mate and increase happiness. Attend a social affair and make sure your clothing is immaculate.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Make changes in your surroundings so that it is more functional. Make plans to have more abundance in the future.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) You have to exercise utmost care in motion now to avoid possible accident. Be self-controlled and avoid arguments.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Show gratitude to those who have given you assistance in the past. Contact outsiders for data you need.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) If you use accepted systems now you can advance in career matters. Take time to improve your appearance.

**PISCES** (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Plan how to handle a new problem in a modern way and get good results. Take no chances where your reputation is concerned.

## THE BETTER HALF By Barnes



"We're no longer flirting with bankruptcy — we're courting it passionately."

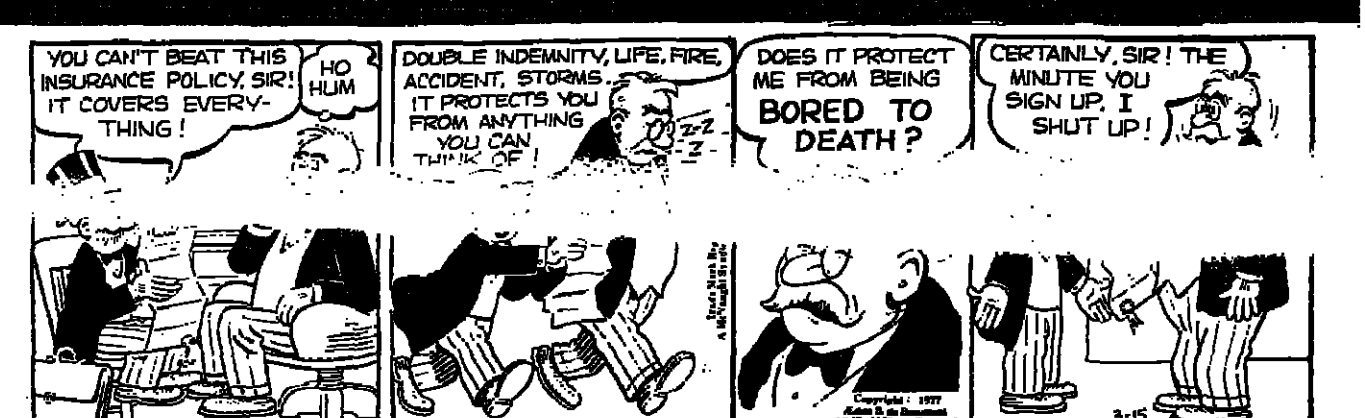
## PEANUTS



## THE FLINTSTONES



## MUTT AND JEFF



## JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME  
by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Scramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

**GULEN**

**CANKK**

**FLTUE**

**BRONCA**

**Print answer here:** A

**Answers tomorrow**

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## Smith will reject "unrealistic" new initiatives on Rhodesia

BULAWAYO, Rhodesia, March 14 (Agencies) — A new initiative on Rhodesia now being prepared by Britain and the U.S. may have a chance of succeeding as long as it is "realistic," Prime Minister Ian Smith told the Bulawayo Chronicle in an interview today.

"I hope it will be realistic. If it is unrealistic, then clearly I will reject it again," the Rhodesian leader said. He added that he intended pushing ahead with negotiations for an "internal" solution and that a constitution guaranteeing the rights of minority groups would be drawn up at a conference grouping blacks and whites.

Mr. Smith also affirmed in the interview that an international fund to guarantee the financial security of whites wishing to stay in post-independence Rhodesia had already been set up and was progressing well.

"In fact this is the only thing on which we can report progress since the Pretoria meeting," Mr. Smith said.

The Rhodesian leader said his majority in parliament was still strong enough to enable him to carry on, despite defections, but that if defeated in parliament he would call an election.

Meanwhile, rebels in the

ling Rhodesian Front Party have challenged the government to clearly state its political objectives and have urged that total war be declared on black nationalist guerrillas.

The 12 dissident members of parliament have opposed moves by Mr. Smith to "dismantle" white-ruled Rhodesia's race discrimination structure.

Mr. Smith hopes that by doing this he will induce black nationalist leaders seeking majority rule to negotiate a settlement with his government that will win international recognition and end international economic sanctions imposed on the breakaway British colony.

The dissidents, who include two former ministers, want a full-scale war effort to beat the guerrillas followed by talks with moderate blacks to achieve a political settlement.

A statement Saturday said the Smith government must clearly state its objectives so government action could be seen as part of a coordinated plan rather than of giving piecemeal concessions.

A spokesman for the group said it was absolutely necessary to launch "the anti-terrorist war with a total strategy in a dedicated and ruthless manner."

This would include the elimination of the political infrastructure in Rhodesia which backs the externally-based Patriotic Front of Mr. Joshua Nkomo and Mr. Robert Mugabe. Mr. Smith has refused to negotiate further with leaders of the guerrilla forces fighting for majority rule.

The 12 had found a strong desire for a settlement within a framework that would realistically guarantee the maintenance of law and order, the preservation of the free enterprise system, and the preservation of community identities and values, the statement said.

The 100-member Rhodesian Front National Executive will meet on Wednesday. It is expected to call a special party congress to discuss the split in its ranks.

The congress will decide whether the Rhodesian Front will modify its principles to fall in line with the prime minister's plan or whether to censure the government for deviating from those principles.

It is expected that Mr. Smith will oust the rebels and win a mandate for the changes he believes necessary.

The 12 are expected to quit the front and form their own party.

## Rabin, Peres pick up their quarrel again

TEL AVIV, March 14 (AFP) — The truce observed between the PLO and Peres camp during the eight-day stay of Israeli Prime Minister in the United States has been broken.

A volley of mutual reproaches and recriminations has been fired between the two (almost equal) camps. Strangely enough an Israeli film dramatising the rescue operation of Entebbe has given fresh ammunition to Mr. Rabin's supporters.

They claim that "Mr. Peres said in the film that he would try to push the army's rescue operation through the cabinet."

Mr. Peres' supporters say that the minister of defence "does not speak during the sequence and his part is spoken by an actor. Moreover the screenplay for the film was taken from a book to which Mr. Rabin had written a preface, which shows that Mr. Rabin had approved the script," they claim.

Another allegation by Mr. Rabin, violently rejected by Mr. Peres' followers is that "the minister of defence had put into (U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus) Vance's hand" the idea of establishing U.S. monitoring stations at the West Bank and on the Golan Heights."

The mutual recriminations add to the tension between the two men. Talks, aimed at patching up their differences and preparing the party as a whole for the electoral campaign were suspended due to Mr. Rabin's trip to the U.S. but the new

disorder may well raise obstacles to an agreement. "In fact Mr. Rabin is back to his old tricks again," said one of Mr. Peres' supporters who is quoted by the Jerusalem Post.

The Jerusalem Post gives both men a severe slap in the face. The paper says: "It would have been expected of Mr. Rabin that he would try his hardest to heal the wounds inflicted during the competition at the party's convention. Instead he appears to be pouring salt in them." As for Mr. Peres, "after having failed in his bid to replace Mr. Rabin, he insists now on an equal division of the party's spoils, and his professions of loyalty to the newly elected chief rather lack in conviction."

Do these two men keep undermining each other to take their party to the electoral grave? Asks the Jerusalem Post, which concludes: "There is evidence that unless they hasten to make their peace a host of uncommitted party members will simply call a plague on both their houses."

## Pakistani opposition leaders arrested

ISLAMABAD, March 14 (R) — Several prominent opposition leaders were arrested today and disturbances were reported in Karachi as the opposition launched a nationwide protest to demand the resignation of Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto.

The opposition leaders, who have alleged that Mr. Bhutto rigged last week's general elections giving him a landslide victory, were apparently detained for violating a government ban on public gatherings.

In the nation's biggest city, Karachi, regarded as an opposition stronghold, police fired tear gas to disperse crowds and the army was called in to restore order, according to reliable sources in the city.

The head of the defeated nine-party Pakistan National Alliance (PNA), Maulana Mufi Mahmud, was taken into custody in Peshawar along with the most outspoken woman politician, Mrs. Nasim Wali Khan, wife of jailed opposition leader Abdul Wali Khan.

In Rawalpindi PNA leader Abdul Sattar Mazhar and 13 supporters were arrested after a clash with police outside a mosque.

There were additional, unconfirmed, reports that two other prominent alliance leaders, Sh-

erbaz Mazari and Prof. Ghaffar Ahmad, had been taken into custody by police but later released.

Police in Karachi, fired more than 60 tear gas shells and made numerous baton charges to keep the crowds off the streets, the sources said. A number of people were hurt and there were many arrests the sources added.

Mr. Bhutto warned the opposition in a weekend radio and television broadcast that he would not allow it to disrupt law and order.

He said the opposition must accept the verdict of the March

7 elections, which gave him a landslide victory of 154 out of 200 National Assembly seats.

The prime minister said that the elections had been held and said there was no question of holding them again.

The PNA on Saturday called for demonstrations throughout the country from today to demand Mr. Bhutto's immediate ouster and the appointment of a caretaker government to conduct fresh polls.

Mr. Bhutto offered to talk with the PNA leaders, discuss their grievances but opposition rejected a dialogue.

## Fierce battles rage between Laotian nationalists, Reds

BANGKOK, March 14 (AFP) — Fierce fighting has broken out between several thousand well-armed Laotian nationalist guerrillas and Communist security forces on the outskirts of the former royal capital of Luang Prabang, 300 kms. north of Vientiane, an informed source in the Laotian capital told AFP by telephone today.

The fighting led to the arrest of former King Savang Vatthana, 69, his eldest son the crown prince and all members of their family. Special political police made the arrests at dawn on Saturday to prevent any possibility of the king going over to the nationalist side.

The king and his family were reportedly taken to an unknown destination in northeast Laos, the Pathet Lao stronghold during the civil war, the source said.

Heavy reinforcements, consisting of several Vietnamese battalions, were flown to Luang Prabang from the Plain of Jars, about 100 kms. east of the former royal capital, the same source said.

Telephone links with Vientiane, severed on Sunday, were re-established this morning.

King Savang Vatthana, heir to a 711-year-old monarchy, abdicated on Dec. 4, 1975 after a brief mortar attack on his palace. He had refused to be crowned "so long as the civil war lasts."

He was appointed advisor to President Souphanouvong, the Communist leader and himself a prince of royal blood, who paradoxically is now the only heir to the abolished throne still free.

The former head of state had been living in retirement in a small house at Luang Prabang where he grew flowers and fruit trees, and deliberately steered clear of political life. He refused to flee to a foreign country like his youngest son and brother.

The Laotian authorities called at the last minute a special visit he was to have to France in 1975.

Government circles in Vientiane that leaked the news of the arrest indicated that Mr. Prince Savangvatthana, the king's approval, had given support to rebel national

## Italian F.M. discusses M.E. peace in Syria

DAMASCUS, March 14 (Agencies) — Italian Foreign Minister Arnaldo Forlani arrived today after a two-day visit to Syria.

Mr. Forlani, who goes to Damascus tomorrow, told journalists at Damascus Airport his talks with Syrian Foreign Minister Abdul Halim Khaddam tonight would cover Middle East situation and bilateral relations.

The minister is expected to meet President Hafiz Assad tomorrow.

While in the Egyptian capital, Mr. Forlani met with the Egyptian Foreign Minister Ibrahim Badawi Pasha, who heads the E.O.P. (PLO) official Arab League delegation.

The meeting, which Mr. Forlani described as "most useful," was the first between an Italian minister and a Syrian minister.

Mr. Forlani also had talks with President Sadat, Foreign Minister Ismail Fahmy and Arab League Secretary General Mahmoud Riad.

Mr. Forlani's talks with President Sadat reportedly cover the latest developments in the Middle East and on strengthening of Italian-Egyptian relations, Cairo Radio yesterday.

## ECONOMIC AND BUSINESS NEWS

### Battle of Concorde's U.S. landing rights moves into New York federal court today

NEW YORK, March 14 (Agencies) — The battle over the landing rights for Concorde, important both for the super-sonic plane's commercial success and America's relations with Britain and France, moves into court tomorrow.

Lawyers for Air France and British Airways, operators of the aircraft, will argue in federal court that denying the plane access to the key New York market would violate the U.S. constitution and break treaty obligations.

The two countries have spent \$3 billion since the early 1960s developing a plane that moves faster than sound but cannot cross the Atlantic to New York because of public pressure.

People who live in Kennedy Airport's "jet alley" area are set against the plane, claiming it makes too much noise and pollution.

Without the lucrative New York market, experts fear the aircraft will be an economic failure.

The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, which operates Kennedy, was to have made a final decision on Concorde last Thursday but once again postponed it to allow the makers time to discuss operational procedures which would reduce the plane's noise.

A vote on Thursday by the authority's 12 commissioners — and it is widely believed they would have voted against the plane coming in on a test basis — would have coincided with talks between President Carter and British Prime Minister James Callaghan.

It would also have come just three days before important municipal elections in France.

Both countries have argued their case for the plane at the highest level, with Mr. Callaghan using Concorde to take him to Washington.

A French earlier French President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing told President Carter that a "no" to Concorde could provoke a grave crisis between the traditional allies.

Some New Yorkers, especially those in the business and trade union communities, argue that Concorde would bring much-needed jobs and revenue to the financially hard-pressed city.

But New York State Governor Hugh Carey, up for reelection next year, has sided with the objectors and indicated he would veto any port

authority decision to grant landing rights unless noise levels were reduced.

Meanwhile the mayor of Newark, New Jersey, which has a big modern airport only 24 kms. from central Manhattan, was quoted today as saying he was trying to persuade the port authority to allow Concorde here.

Lawyers for Concorde will argue that a letter to French and British leaders in 1973 from then-President Richard Nixon granting the plane U.S. landing rights represented a diplomatic commitment.

They also claim that since the Ford administration agreed to Concorde tests at Washington's Dulles Airport and Ken-

nedy, the port authority cannot supercede the decision.

Meanwhile, President Jimmy Carter has assured Mr. Callaghan that he believes Concorde should be allowed to complete test landings at Kennedy Airport.

Mr. Callaghan confirmed this yesterday in a television interview, in which he defended Concorde as "a fine plane."

He added that the cost of production of the aircraft was "minuscule" by comparison with other aircraft.

Mr. Callaghan said it was regrettable that the Concorde affair had upset Anglo-American relations, because that was "no way for us to conduct our affairs."

## Saudi Arabia signs major deals with South Korea, Taiwan

SEOUL, March 14 (Agencies) — A South Korean construction firm will undertake a \$150 million electrification project in the region of Asir, Saudi Arabia.

This was revealed in a joint communiqué issued today at the end of a six-day official visit here of Saudi Arabia's Minister of Industry and Electricity, Dr. Ghazi Al Qussabiy, at the invitation of South Korean Commerce and Industry Minister Chang Yie Joon.

The final contract for this project will be worked out as soon as possible, the communiqué said.

Minister Al Qussabiy later told newsmen that Saudi Arabia hopes South Korea will massively participate in Saudi Arabia's various industrialisation projects particularly in

such fields as the constructions of fertilizer, petro-chemical and iron-steel plants.

The communiqué said the two ministers expressed satisfaction at the rapid expansion of bilateral trade and economic cooperation between South Korea and Saudi Arabia in recent years and shared the view that there exist vast areas for further expansion in view of the complementarity of their respective economies.

Also, Saudi Arabia has awarded two leading South Korean firms contracts totalling \$430 million to build port facilities, the Korean firms said today.

The contracts were signed separately in Saudi Arabia last Tuesday between Prince Mu'tib Ibn Abdul Aziz, Minister of Public Works and Housing, and representatives of South Korea's Hyundai Construction Company and Dong Ah Industrial Construction Company.

Hyundai will build a \$260 million project to build ports, causeways, dormitories for workers, and open-air depots at Ras

Al Ghar in the Gulf.

Dong Ah will undertake similar construction at Thuwar Port on the Red Sea at a total cost of \$170 million.

Meanwhile, Taiwan has agreed to assist Saudi Arabia in building a power plant with a capacity of 51,111 kW in the southwestern part of the kingdom.

The decision came after meetings between Mr. Y. S. Sun, Nationalist Chinese Economic Minister, and Dr. Ghazi Al Qussabiy who paid a three-day visit here recently.

According to the agreement, the state-owned Taiwan Power Company will send a group of technicians to Saudi Arabia to study a detailed plan for construction of the power plant. The plan will be submitted to the Saudi government for approval within two months.

The Saudi government has decided to invest \$111 million to construct a big power plant to meet its local demand with expertise and technology supplied by the Taiwan Power Company.

## Arab, Jewish lawyers demonstrate on behalf of Asqalan hunger strike

TEL AVIV, March 14 (R) — A group of Jewish and Arab lawyers held a demonstration yesterday outside the Asqalan (Ashkelon) jail where 38 Arab prisoners are on a partial hunger strike.

They were refused permission to visit the prisoners and were told they should file applications "48 hours in advance."

The demonstrators were seen singing Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) songs, eye-witnesses reported.

On Saturday students stoned Israeli vehicles and burned tyres in the streets of Nabulus, in the occupied West Bank, to mark the opening in Cairo of a session of the Palestine National Council, the Palestinian news agency Wafa reported Saturday.

Demonstrations also took place at Ramallah, Al Bireh and Beit Sahur in response to pamphlets distributed Friday throughout the occupied West Bank, Wafa said.

Also on Saturday an explosion occurred at an arms factory in central Israel killing two workers, a Ministry of Defence spokesman said.

Defence Minister Shimon Peres toured the plant after the blast and set up a committee of inquiry.

## Mrs. Marcos has Filipino peace talks in Tripoli

TRIPOLI, March 14 (AFP) — Mrs. Imelda Marcos, the wife of President Ferdinand Marcos of the Philippines had talks here last night with Libyan Premier Muammar Gaddafi, the Arab Revolution News Agency (ARNA) reported.

ARNA said Maj. Jalloud also conferred on Saturday with Mr. Nour Messoury, leader of the Moslem Moro Liberation Front, whose forces were until

recently fighting government troops in the southern Philippines.

The agency said the meetings were part of Libya's efforts to help produce a solution to the problem of the Philippines' Moslem minority, which were continuing despite the breakdown of talks between Mr. Marcos' government and the Moro front held in Libya.

## Wednesday's elections will bring to end Congress Party's total dominance of Indian politics, most observers agree

By Michel Garin

NEW DELHI, March 14 (AFP) — Forty-eight hours before the Indian general elections the general consensus is that Prime Minister Mrs. Indira Gandhi's Congress Party will limp to the top with a feeble majority, thanks to voters in the countryside.

Not one, not even the Congress Party leaders, except this political grouping to have the slightest chance of coming close

to the two-thirds majority it held in the outgoing parliament. As 320 million voters (48 million more than in 1971) prepare to take the trial on Wednesday to the voting booth to elect 542 M.P. some observers even envisage the possibility of a coalition government which Congress however, would still dominate. Voting will continue, according to the specific region, until Sunday.

If Congress does not carry the 272 seats required for a

bare majority, Mrs. Gandhi will have to seek a coalition partner among one of three parties: The Congress "O" (Opposition group), the pro-Moslem Indian Communist Party and former Agriculture Minister Jagjivan Ram's recently-founded Congress for Democracy.

The Communists, who backed Mrs. Gandhi's emergency proclamation in June 1975, are quite ready to go along with the Congress party on condition that the state of emergency now be ended and that more businesses be nationalised.

The opposition, particularly the Janata Party (linking four parties which grouped together in January after the election announcement, is expected to do well in the poll. Observers here now see Janata as one of the main political formations in the country.

After 20 months of emergency regulations, during which many of its leadership was jailed without trial, the Janata Party managed in two months to collect enough funds to set up an organisation which covers practically the whole country.

Congress, since Mr. Ram resigned from the government and from the party, has considerably changed its campaign style in the past few weeks. The party leaders are keeping a low profile, leaving Mrs. Gandhi to soldier on alone.

She was managed to quieten personal attacks and promises her hearers stability as opposed to chaos with the opposition. She is obviously banking on her personal prestige to win the contest. She alone addresses the crowds during the approximately 15 meetings over which she presides every day.

The whole country is now involved in the elections. Even religious leaders have entered the political arena. The Imam of the Delhi Jama Masjid Grand Mosque, Abdullah Bukhari, has invited the country's 60 million

Muslims to vote for the Jan Party.

Mrs. Gandhi can think excessive zeal of some of the birth-control teams for the tenting loss of these votes. Some of the bishops, representing India's 14 million Catholics, have thought it politic to call on Mrs. Gandhi. A photo of their meeting was in a major outcry among priests and faithful who see the church hierarchy as out of politics.

Victory or defeat for Congress is finally expected to lie on the key northern and northeastern states, traditional of the party: Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. It is not a coincidence that Mrs. Gandhi paid, on Sunday night, a last call in Uttar Pradesh (lower house seats) where, and her controversial son, young Sanjay, are both vying for office.

The elections have exploded the long-existing myth of Indian passivity. Press and opinion, muzzled for nearly months, have in the last weeks reacted with spirit and vigour.

Whatever the result of election, even if Mrs. Gandhi remains in power, the Congress Party which she leads a country for 30 years, can no longer behave as it did during the recent emergency.

## WALL STREET REPORT

Prices managed a sharp and broad advance Monday on the New York stock exchange, where the industrial average was up more than 10 points.

Trading, however, continued to be light. Analysts said the advance may have been triggered by Treasury Secretary Michael Blumenthal's remarks that he expected a substantial economic rebound. The market's advance surprised many observers though, since the Commerce Department will publish Tuesday the statistics about industrial production in February.

Advances outnumbered declines at the bell by a 582 to 538 margin.

Chemicals were steady with Dow Chemical progressing 1-1/4 at 152. Steels were also up. U.S. Steels gained 1-1/2 at 49. Among the aerospace shares, General Dynamics gained 1-3/8 at 56-1/8. At the close, the industrial average shows a 958.56, a gain of 10.64 points. Transp. at 225.36, a gain of 0.83; utilities at 106.56, a loss of 0.13. 19,290,000 shares changed hands, of which 4,690,000 during the last hour.

## LONDON MARKET REPORT

The market Monday closed firm in light to moderate trading and at 15:00 the F.T. index was up 9.7 at 425.5.

Government bonds were featured throughout much of the day on optimism about an improvement in the trade figures and Friday's re-introduction of the market-related formula for calculating the minimum lending rate, dealers said. After the trade figures were tending to harden further. At 15:30 net gains among longer maturities ranged to 1-1/4 while shorts firmed up to 1/2.

Incense's exemption from U.K. dividend controls because of the volume of its overseas trading activity helped it and other overseas traders to go higher. Incense finished 37p up while Unilever rose 24p.

Industrial leaders added to earlier gains after the better-than-expected trade figures, dealers said. ICI, Glaxo, Bats, Beecham, Hawker and Vickers gained between 10p and 14p.

Interest in gold shares was minimal and prices were barely changed from midmorning's earlier levels.

GEC's floating rate notes were traded for the first time and closed at 97-3/4 after a high of 98 against the opening of 97 stg. The ordinary share eased to 186 ex-cap after a low of 179. Friday's close was 204.

Price of gold closed in London Monday at \$145.78/oz.

## ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

KUWAIT, March 14 (R) — Kuwait yesterday decided to double K to \$20 million its participation in the capital of the Arab Bank for African Economic Development. It was officially announced here. Kuwait was among Arab states which pledged at last week's Arab-African summit in Cairo to increase the capital of the Khartoum-based bank by \$180 million to \$545 million.

KUWAIT, March 14 (R) — North Yemen has become a member of the Riyadh-based Arab Investment Company (AIC). AIC Chairman Ibrahim Al Ibrahim said here today. He said that North Yemen's membership of the pan-Arab company had been accepted and it was contributing \$1 million to the company's capital. The company was created by five Arab countries two-and-a-half years ago and Mr. Al Ibrahim said its membership will rise to 17 when applications from South Yemen and Somalia were expected to be approved later this month.

NAIROBI, March 14 (AFP) — Certain Arab countries have offered Uganda up to 100 million shillings (about \$12 million) for the construction of a paved road from Karuma Falls to Arua, in northern Uganda, Radio Uganda, monitored here, reported Saturday. The radio quoted Ugandan President Idi Amin as saying the money would also be used to finance other development projects in Uganda. President Amin did not specify which Arab countries made the offer but said the money would be channelled through the Arab Development bank. The offer was one of the fruits of the recent Afro-Arab summit in Cairo he added.

WASHINGTON, March 14 (AFP) — U.S. Treasury Secretary Michael Blumenthal yesterday offered hopes of "moderate" customs protection to American industries threatened by foreign imports. In a television interview, Mr. Blumenthal said that an international trade commission had said that the spot industry, sugar trade and colour television industry were all threatened by an increase in imports. He preferred, the treasury secretary said, to aid these industries by internal measures aimed at restructuring their methods.

## WORLD NEWS BRIEFS

CAIRO, March 14 (AFP) — Japanese Prime Minister Takeo Fukuda has invited Egyptian President Anwar Sadat to visit Japan, the Middle East News Agency reported today. The invitation was handed to Egyptian Foreign Minister Ismail Fahmy by the Japanese ambassador to Egypt, the agency said.

BERN, March 14 (AFP) — Swiss voters yesterday rejected an anti-foreigners referendum aimed at cutting down on the number of foreigners granted Swiss nationality and the number of outsiders allowed to live in Switzerland. Voters in the referendum were presented with a possible revision of the constitution by extreme right-wing movement. But results showed that the electorate repudiated a rejection by up to 75 per cent of the vote throughout the Swiss Cantons.

LONDON, March 14 (AFP) — British Foreign Secretary David Owen announced today he will make a Southern African tour soon but said he was not making "any new initiatives" on Rhodesia. Reliable sources here said he would go during the second and third weeks of April. Zambia, South Africa, Botswana, Mozambique and Tanzania are on the itinerary. He will also visit Nigeria, the sources said. He is not expected to visit Rhodesia.

LONDON, March 14 (AFP) — Scottish Labour Party delegates endorsed the government's devolution plans to provide Scotland and Wales with regional assemblies with limited powers at a party congress which ended yesterday in the Scottish city of Perth. Backers of devolution hope the position adopted by the Scottish Labour Party's 250 delegates will serve to win over 40 Labour members of parliament at Westminster who defied government whips last month to vote down a "guillotine" motion limiting debate on the controversial issue.

WASHINGTON, March 14 (AFP) — President Jimmy Carter has the approval of 71 per cent of Americans for the way he is governing a Gallup Institute opinion poll published here yesterday said.

محز اصناف

تسجین مساوس  
TREASURE HOUSE  
THIRD FLOOR  
JAHAL AMMAN  
Wide variety of towels,  
bedsheets, blankets and  
CANNON bedcovers.